

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-4, 6-10, 27, 29-32, 34, 41-56 were previously pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1, 54 and 55 have been amended. As a result, claims 1-4, 6-10, 27, 29-32, 34, 41-56 are pending for examination with claims 1, 27 and 54 being independent. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejection 35 U.S.C. §103

Independent claim 1

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103 based on Nishio (US 7,316,022) in view of Howard (US 6,823,526) and Ruberg (US 6,895,588). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection to the extent it is maintained for the claims as amended.

Independent claim 1 recites, among other limitations:

“a display component that displays to a user of the computing device an interface indicating associated network devices, the interface, based on an output of the monitoring component, selectively including a representation of the network device in a format that distinguishes between when the network device is available and when the network device is not available.”

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Nishio, Howard nor Ruberg discloses a display component that meets this limitation of claim 1. Accordingly, even if the references were combined, the combination would not meet all the limitations of claim 1, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

In rejecting claim 1, the Office Action cites to column 8, lines 4-6 of Nishio as meeting this limitation. However, the cited passages of Nishio relate to a user interface displaying a list of newly detected printers. There is no teaching in the reference of selectively including a representation of the network device in a format that distinguishes between when the network device is available and when the network device is not available, as recited in claim 1. As understood, all of the printers

depicted in the interface have the same visual appearance. Further, there appears no distinction in the display format in Nishio based on availability of the printer.

Applicants note that, in rejecting dependent claim 55, the Office Action has further cited Kemp (US 7,689,673) at column 10, lines 48-50. To expedite prosecution, Applicants comment on why such a rejection would be improper in response to the amendments to claim 1. The cited passage of Kemp relates to displaying “a ghost image” of a printer as the icon of the printer is being dragged from an installation pane to an agent pane. In Kemp, ghosting is used to indicate user input and is not based on a monitoring component indicating that a network device is not available on the network. Accordingly, even if Kemp were combined with Nishio, Howard and Ruberg as asserted in the rejection of dependent claim 55, the combination would not meet at least the limitation of claim 1 highlighted above. Dependant claims 2-4 and 6-8 should be allowed at least based on their dependency.

In rejecting dependent claims 9 and 10, the Examiner further cites Chiles (US 6,581,157). However, Chiles is cited for teaching updating device firmware. Accordingly, Chiles does not teach a display component as recited in claim 1 and therefore does not cure the deficiencies of the combination of Nishio, Howard and Ruberg.

In rejecting dependent claim 53 additionally cites Meenan (US 7,283,505). Meenan also does not cure the deficiencies of the combination of Nishio, Howard and Ruberg. Rather, Meenan is cited as teaching associating a network device with at least one other network device using a credential. Accordingly, even if Meenan were combined with Nishio, Howard and Ruberg, the combination would not have a display component as recited in independent claim 1.

Independent claim 27

The Office Action rejects claims 27, 29-32, 34, 41-49 and 52 under 35 U.S.C. §103 based on Nishio and Meenan. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Office Action concedes that Nishio does not teach associating a computer peripheral with a computer by authenticating. Rather, Meenan is cited for meeting this limitation. However, the cited passages of Meenan relate to a client device that authenticates with a host system through a home networking gateway such that wireless access points could be configured (see, Title,

Abstract). That technique involves transmitting information over a wired connection for forming the wireless connection (Meenan, col. 2, lines 57-62). Accordingly, Meenan relies on a network configuration, involving both wired and wireless connections, that appears not to exist in Nishio. Accordingly, it cannot be said that these references can be combined.

Further, even if there was a reason to apply the approach of Meenan in a network as described in Nishio (which applicants do not concede), there is no reason to assert that the techniques for configuring wireless access points in Meenan would be applied for communication between a computer and a printer as in Nishio. Accordingly, even if the references were combined, the combination would not meet all limitations of claim 27.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the Office Action does not provide a prima facie rejection of claim 27, and the rejection should be withdrawn. The rejections of claims 29-32, 34, 41-49 and 52 should also be withdrawn, at least based on their dependency.

Independent claim 54

The Office Action rejects claims 54 under 35 U.S.C. §103, stating only “see rejections of claims 1, 2 and 53.” Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

First, for reasons noted above, the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 53 is not proper, and should be withdrawn.

Second, none of the rejections of claims 1, 2 or 53 describes “accessing the computer peripheral using channel security,” as recited in claim 54. Even if the rejections of those claims were proper (which Applicants do not concede), they would not demonstrate that every limitation of claim 54 was in the prior art and are not proper rejections for claim 54. For this additional reason, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 55-56, which depend from claim 54, under 35 U.S.C. §103 based on Nishio, Howard, Ruberg and Kemp. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

These claims should be allowed at least based on their dependency from claim 54. Additionally, the additional references cited against these dependent claims do not teach the limitations for which they are asserted to teach. As noted above, though Kemp is cited to teach a

ghosted icon, it does not teach “a ghosted icon of the device when the output of the monitoring component indicates that the network device is not accessible on the network,” as recited in claim 55.

General Comments on Dependent Claims

Each of the dependent claims depends from a base claim that is believed to be in condition for allowance, and Applicants believe that it is unnecessary at this time to argue the allowability of each of the dependent claims individually. Applicants do not, however, necessarily concur with the interpretation of the dependent claims as set forth in the Office Action, nor do Applicants concur that the basis for the rejection of any of the dependent claims is proper. Therefore, Applicants reserve the right to specifically address the patentability of the dependent claims in the future, if deemed necessary.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23/2825 under Docket No. M1103.70668US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 
Edmund J. Walsh

Registration No.: 32,950

WOLF, GREENFIELD & SACKS, P.C.

600 Atlantic Avenue

Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206

617.646.8000